



News Release

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8:30 A.M. (Eastern) Thursday, December 8, 2016

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS

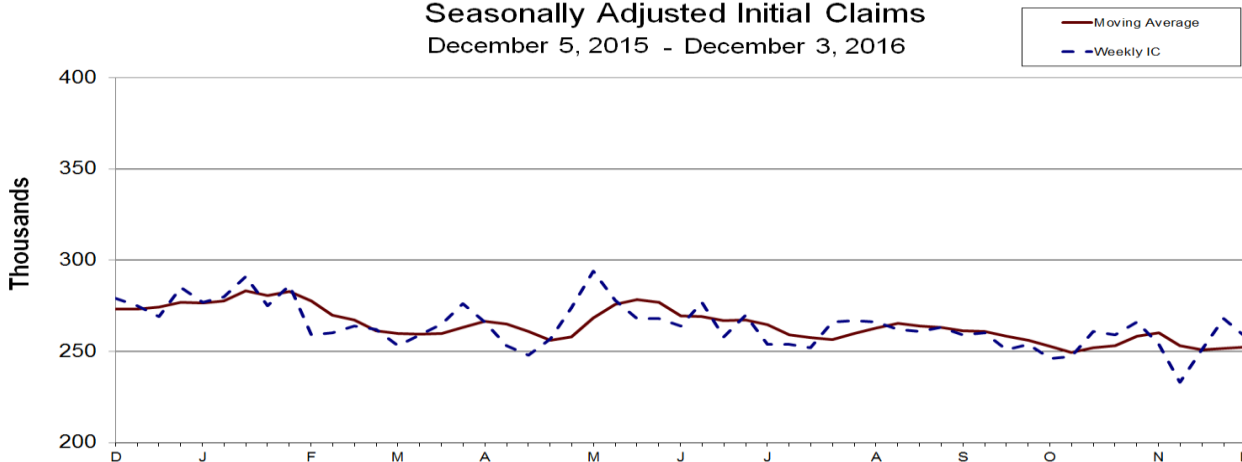
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

In the week ending December 3, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted **initial claims** was 258,000, a decrease of 10,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 268,000. The 4-week moving average was 252,500, an increase of 1,000 from the previous week's unrevised average of 251,500.

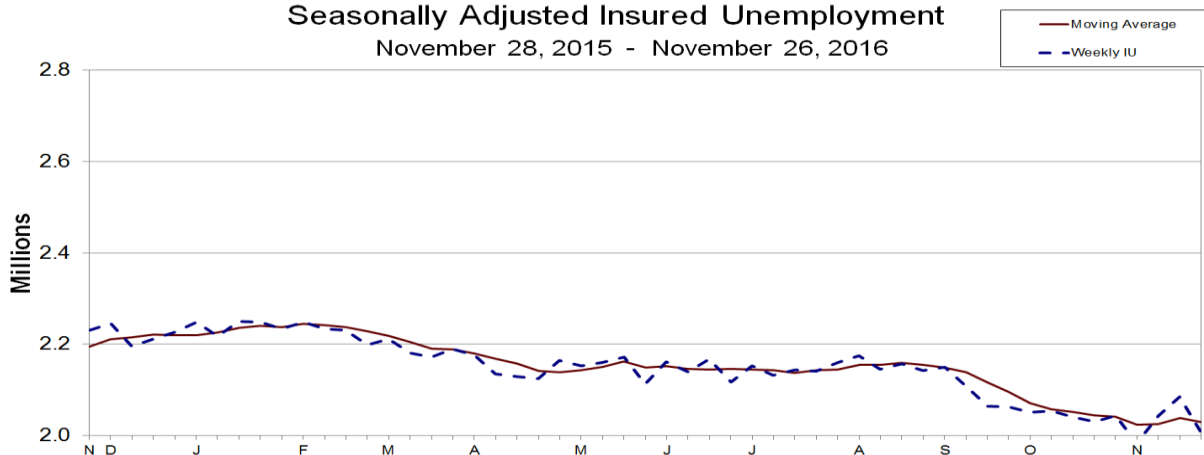
There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 92 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1970.

The advance seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment rate** was 1.4 percent for the week ending November 26, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from the previous week's unrevised rate. The advance number for seasonally adjusted **insured unemployment** during the week ending November 26 was 2,005,000, a decrease of 79,000 from the previous week's revised level. The previous week's level was revised up 3,000 from 2,081,000 to 2,084,000. The 4-week moving average was 2,028,750, a decrease of 9,500 from the previous week's revised average. The previous week's average was revised up by 750 from 2,037,500 to 2,038,250.

Seasonally Adjusted Initial Claims
December 5, 2015 - December 3, 2016



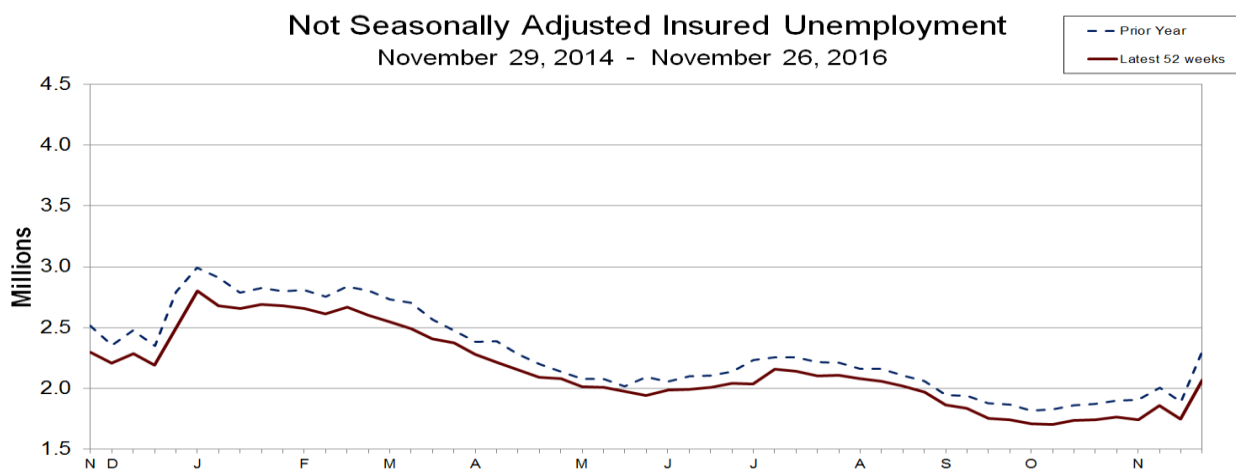
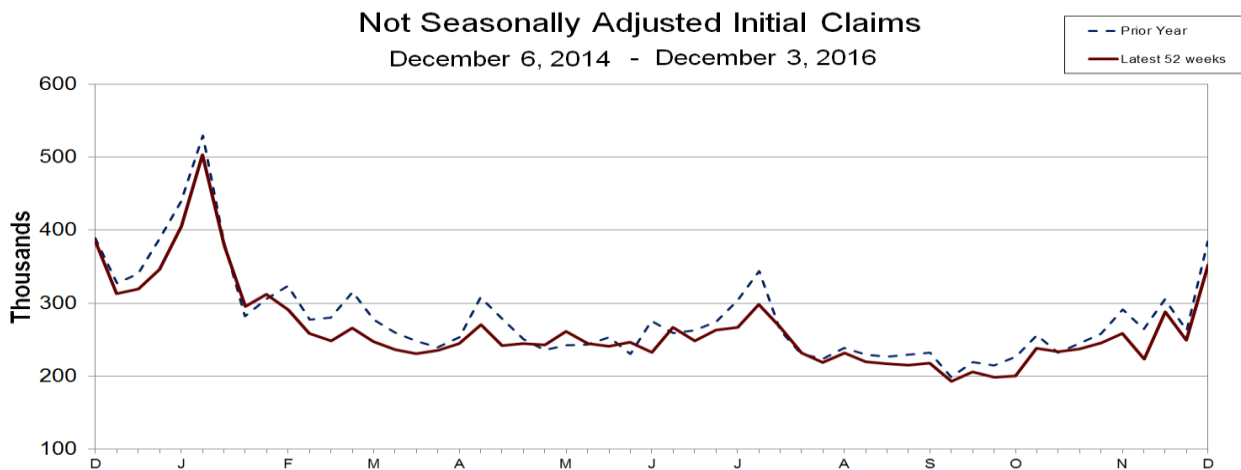
Seasonally Adjusted Insured Unemployment
November 28, 2015 - November 26, 2016



UNADJUSTED DATA

The advance number of actual initial claims under state programs, unadjusted, totaled 352,931 in the week ending December 3, an increase of 103,157 (or 41.3 percent) from the previous week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 116,454 (or 46.6 percent) from the previous week. There were 384,491 initial claims in the comparable week in 2015.

The advance unadjusted insured unemployment rate was 1.5 percent during the week ending November 26, an increase of 0.2 percentage point from the prior week. The advance unadjusted number for persons claiming UI benefits in state programs totaled 2,069,485, an increase of 323,254 (or 18.5 percent) from the preceding week. The seasonal factors had expected an increase of 404,259 (or 23.2 percent) from the previous week. A year earlier the rate was 1.7 percent and the volume was 2,299,417.



The total number of people claiming benefits in all programs for the week ending November 19 was 1,785,884, a decrease of 117,950 from the previous week. There were 1,934,596 persons claiming benefits in all programs in the comparable week in 2015.

No state was triggered "on" the Extended Benefits program during the week ending November 19.

Initial claims for UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 909 in the week ending November 26, a decrease of 878 from the prior week. There were 584 initial claims filed by newly discharged veterans, a decrease of 405 from the preceding week.

There were 11,540 former Federal civilian employees claiming UI benefits for the week ending November 19, a decrease of 3,036 from the previous week. Newly discharged veterans claiming benefits totaled 12,036, a decrease of 1,283 from the prior week.

The highest insured unemployment rates in the week ending November 19 were in Alaska (3.8), Puerto Rico (2.4), New Jersey (2.2), Connecticut (2.0), California (1.8), Montana (1.8), Pennsylvania (1.8), Massachusetts (1.7), Nevada (1.7), West Virginia (1.7), and Wyoming (1.7).

The largest increases in initial claims for the week ending November 26 were in Wisconsin (+4,779), Minnesota (+1,647), Ohio (+1,137), Vermont (+728), and North Dakota (+610), while the largest decreases were in California (-11,339), Texas (-7,688), Georgia (-2,444), Florida (-2,329), and New York (-2,189).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	December 3	November 26	Change	November 19	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	258,000	268,000	-10,000	251,000	279,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	352,931	249,774	+103,157	287,794	384,491
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	252,500	251,500	+1,000	251,000	273,000
WEEK ENDING	November 26	November 19	Change	November 12	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	2,005,000	2,084,000	-79,000	2,043,000	2,230,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,069,485	1,746,231	+323,254	1,857,234	2,299,417
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	2,028,750	2,038,250	-9,500	2,024,750	2,195,000
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.4%	1.5%	-0.1	1.5%	1.6%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.5%	1.3%	+0.2	1.3%	1.7%

INITIAL CLAIMS FILED IN FEDERAL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 26	November 19	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Federal Employees (UCFE)	909	1,787	-878	955
Newly Discharged Veterans (UCX)	584	989	-405	769

PERSONS CLAIMING UI BENEFITS IN ALL PROGRAMS (UNADJUSTED)

WEEK ENDING	November 19	November 12	Change	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Regular State	1,742,073	1,852,220	-110,147	1,887,382
Federal Employees	11,540	14,576	-3,036	12,824
Newly Discharged Veterans	12,036	13,319	-1,283	15,834
<u>Extended Benefits</u> ³	0	0	0	0
<u>State Additional Benefits</u> ⁴	6,993	7,389	-396	6,130
<u>STC / Workshare</u> ⁵	13,242	16,330	-3,088	12,426
<u>TOTAL</u>	1,785,884	1,903,834	-117,950	1,934,596

FOOTNOTES

SA - Seasonally Adjusted Data, NSA - Not Seasonally Adjusted Data

1. Prior year is comparable to most recent data.
2. Most recent week used covered employment of 138,322,138 as denominator.
3. Information on the EB program can be found here: [EB Program information](#)
4. Some states maintain additional benefit programs for those claimants who exhaust regular, extended and emergency benefits. Information on states that participate, and the extent of benefits paid, can be found starting on page 4-5 of this link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)
5. Information on STC/Worksharing can be found starting on page 4-9 of the following link: [Extensions and Special Programs PDF](#)

Advance State Claims - Not Seasonally Adjusted

STATE	Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended December 3			Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 26		
	Advance	Prior Wk	Change	Advance	Prior Wk	Change
Alabama	3,754	2,324	1,430	19,987	19,266	721
Alaska	1,923	1,246	677	13,889	12,054	1,835
Arizona	3,937	2,657	1,280	23,030	24,860	-1,830
Arkansas	2,721	2,838	-117	15,719	14,312	1,407
California	54,354	42,330	12,024	390,475	295,675	94,800
Colorado	3,275	2,703	572	27,098	23,806	3,292
Connecticut	4,516	2,936	1,580	37,637	33,047	4,590
Delaware	1,008	768	240	6,283	4,854	1,429
District of Columbia	681	271	410	8,228	8,086	142
Florida	7,139	5,366	1,773	41,230	39,138	2,092
Georgia	9,673	4,354	5,319	32,383	25,331	7,052
Hawaii	1,724	949	775	8,363	7,095	1,268
Idaho	2,320	2,110	210	8,048	7,557	491
Illinois	17,316	12,618	4,698	106,918	89,982	16,936
Indiana	4,730	3,409	1,321	22,293	20,097	2,196
Iowa	6,195	3,960	2,235	22,118	16,057	6,061
Kansas	2,801	2,645	156	12,306	10,248	2,058
Kentucky	3,132	2,555	577	19,688	18,185	1,503
Louisiana	3,054	2,029	1,025	23,450	22,984	466
Maine	1,670	833	837	6,348	5,357	991
Maryland	4,899	3,773	1,126	32,830	32,996	-166
Massachusetts	8,064	6,662	1,402	63,376	57,772	5,604
Michigan	11,902	9,632	2,270	55,909	47,254	8,655
Minnesota	11,465	8,109	3,356	56,443	38,093	18,350
Mississippi	1,708	1,637	71	10,192	10,551	-359
Missouri	4,765	3,435	1,330	24,485	22,259	2,226
Montana	2,182	1,874	308	9,726	7,813	1,913
Nebraska	1,423	1,483	-60	5,552	4,357	1,195
Nevada	3,266	3,117	149	22,524	21,414	1,110
New Hampshire	746	606	140	3,937	3,927	10
New Jersey	12,139	9,813	2,326	99,138	85,431	13,707
New Mexico	1,194	948	246	11,906	11,428	478
New York	30,726	15,335	15,391	161,454	136,259	25,195
North Carolina	4,669	2,452	2,217	23,051	23,217	-166
North Dakota	2,328	1,908	420	7,115	3,503	3,612
Ohio	10,906	10,771	135	58,989	52,359	6,630
Oklahoma	1,816	1,530	286	19,488	19,952	-464
Oregon	6,419	3,980	2,439	31,607	26,986	4,621
Pennsylvania	30,526	18,607	11,919	119,423	103,190	16,233
Puerto Rico	1,336	925	411	21,047	21,515	-468
Rhode Island	1,250	1,180	70	8,217	7,317	900
South Carolina	4,502	1,716	2,786	15,690	14,472	1,218
South Dakota	698	489	209	2,146	1,550	596
Tennessee	3,443	2,460	983	16,980	16,542	438
Texas	20,000	10,877	9,123	178,688	147,856	30,832
Utah	2,644	1,434	1,210	9,949	9,141	808
Vermont	1,206	1,420	-214	5,186	3,534	1,652
Virgin Islands	15	14	1	856	420	436
Virginia	4,817	3,077	1,740	26,182	22,668	3,514
Washington	10,356	8,087	2,269	56,771	47,918	8,853
West Virginia	2,026	1,225	801	15,144	11,364	3,780
Wisconsin	12,606	11,663	943	44,633	30,424	14,209
Wyoming	966	634	332	5,360	4,758	602
US Total	352,931	249,774	103,157	2,069,485	1,746,231	323,254

Note: Advance Claims are not directly comparable to claims reported in prior weeks. Advance claims are reported by the state liable for paying the unemployment compensation, whereas previous weeks reported reflect claimants by state of residence. In addition, claims reported as "workshare equivalent" in the previous week are added to the advance claims as a proxy for the current week's "workshare equivalent" activity.

Seasonally Adjusted US Weekly UI Claims (in thousands)

Week Ending	Initial Claims	Change from		Insured Unemployment	Change from		IUR
		Prior Week	4-Week Average		Prior Week	4-Week Average	
November 28, 2015	274	10	272.25	2,230	39	2,195.00	1.6
December 5, 2015	279	5	273.00	2,245	15	2,210.50	1.7
December 12, 2015	275	-4	273.00	2,195	-50	2,215.25	1.6
December 19, 2015	269	-6	274.25	2,212	17	2,220.50	1.6
December 26, 2015	285	16	277.00	2,226	14	2,219.50	1.6
January 2, 2016	277	-8	276.50	2,248	22	2,220.25	1.6
January 9, 2016	280	3	277.75	2,217	-31	2,225.75	1.6
January 16, 2016	291	11	283.25	2,250	33	2,235.25	1.7
January 23, 2016	275	-16	280.75	2,248	-2	2,240.75	1.6
January 30, 2016	286	11	283.00	2,234	-14	2,237.25	1.6
February 6, 2016	259	-27	277.75	2,249	15	2,245.25	1.7
February 13, 2016	260	1	270.00	2,233	-16	2,241.00	1.6
February 20, 2016	264	4	267.25	2,231	-2	2,236.75	1.6
February 27, 2016	262	-2	261.25	2,198	-33	2,227.75	1.6
March 5, 2016	253	-9	259.75	2,212	14	2,218.50	1.6
March 12, 2016	259	6	259.50	2,180	-32	2,205.25	1.6
March 19, 2016	265	6	259.75	2,172	-8	2,190.50	1.6
March 26, 2016	276	11	263.25	2,189	17	2,188.25	1.6
April 2, 2016	266	-10	266.50	2,176	-13	2,179.25	1.6
April 9, 2016	253	-13	265.00	2,135	-41	2,168.00	1.6
April 16, 2016	248	-5	260.75	2,129	-6	2,157.25	1.6
April 23, 2016	257	9	256.00	2,124	-5	2,141.00	1.6
April 30, 2016	274	17	258.00	2,165	41	2,138.25	1.6
May 7, 2016	294	20	268.25	2,153	-12	2,142.75	1.6
May 14, 2016	278	-16	275.75	2,160	7	2,150.50	1.6
May 21, 2016	268	-10	278.50	2,172	12	2,162.50	1.6
May 28, 2016	268	0	277.00	2,112	-60	2,149.25	1.5
June 4, 2016	264	-4	269.50	2,162	50	2,151.50	1.6
June 11, 2016	277	13	269.25	2,139	-23	2,146.25	1.6
June 18, 2016	258	-19	266.75	2,167	28	2,145.00	1.6
June 25, 2016	270	12	267.25	2,117	-50	2,146.25	1.5
July 2, 2016	254	-16	264.75	2,153	36	2,144.00	1.6
July 9, 2016	254	0	259.00	2,132	-21	2,142.25	1.5
July 16, 2016	252	-2	257.50	2,144	12	2,136.50	1.6
July 23, 2016	266	14	256.50	2,141	-3	2,142.50	1.6
July 30, 2016	267	1	259.75	2,160	19	2,144.25	1.6
August 6, 2016	266	-1	262.75	2,175	15	2,155.00	1.6
August 13, 2016	262	-4	265.25	2,145	-30	2,155.25	1.6
August 20, 2016	261	-1	264.00	2,157	12	2,159.25	1.6
August 27, 2016	263	2	263.00	2,142	-15	2,154.75	1.6
September 3, 2016	259	-4	261.25	2,149	7	2,148.25	1.6
September 10, 2016	260	1	260.75	2,108	-41	2,139.00	1.5
September 17, 2016	251	-9	258.25	2,064	-44	2,115.75	1.5
September 24, 2016	254	3	256.00	2,062	-2	2,095.75	1.5
October 1, 2016	246	-8	252.75	2,050	-12	2,071.00	1.5
October 8, 2016	247	1	249.50	2,054	4	2,057.50	1.5
October 15, 2016	261	14	252.00	2,040	-14	2,051.50	1.5
October 22, 2016	259	-2	253.25	2,030	-10	2,043.50	1.5
October 29, 2016	266	7	258.25	2,043	13	2,041.75	1.5
November 5, 2016	254	-12	260.00	1,983	-60	2,024.00	1.4
November 12, 2016	233	-21	253.00	2,043	60	2,024.75	1.5
November 19, 2016	251	18	251.00	2,084	41	2,038.25	1.5
November 26, 2016	268	17	251.50	2,005	-79	2,028.75	1.4
December 3, 2016	258	-10	252.50				

Initial Claims Filed During Week Ended November

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Insured Unemployment For Week Ended November 19

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

STATE	INITIAL CLAIMS CHANGE FROM					STATE	(%) 2	CHANGE FROM				ALL PROGRAMS EXCLUDING RAILROAD RETIREMENT
	STATE	LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹			LAST WEEK	YEAR AGO	UCFE ¹	UCX ¹	
Alabama	2324	-484	-165	4	9	19266	1.0	-85	-1887	67	123	19456
Alaska	1246	-544	20	9	1	12054	3.8	-324	-591	161	35	12250
Arizona	2657	-1634	76	8	3	24860	1.0	-3197	-1358	177	137	25174
Arkansas	2838	256	-1376	4	2	14312	1.2	-87	-5367	76	90	14478
California	42330	-11339	8846	183	104	295675	1.8	-58237	26700	1927	2378	299980
Colorado	2703	-751	87	29	28	23806	1.0	-1729	-1394	224	478	24508
Connecticut	2936	-1036	-219	6	1	33047	2.0	-1432	-446	75	117	33239
Delaware	768	-28	41	0	1	4854	1.1	-330	-936	12	18	4884
District of Columbia	271	-139	0	6	2	8086	1.5	-292	36	280	6	8372
Florida	5366	-2329	-20	9	33	39138	0.5	-5245	-6600	163	267	39568
Georgia	4354	-2444	-1012	21	32	25331	0.6	-4540	-6157	363	304	25998
Hawaii	949	-420	78	6	9	7095	1.2	-549	854	43	116	7254
Idaho	2110	240	-240	24	8	7557	1.1	494	-224	147	38	7742
Illinois	12618	-657	-1748	10	11	89982	1.6	-5751	-14145	324	334	90640
Indiana	3409	-884	-752	11	3	20097	0.7	486	-917	98	78	20273
Iowa	3960	367	-953	3	2	16057	1.1	-37	-3276	39	60	16156
Kansas	2645	331	-686	4	1	10248	0.8	-161	-2150	64	74	10386
Kentucky	2555	-952	-2970	12	1	18185	1.0	-918	-1064	187	233	18605
Louisiana	2029	-1039	-525	0	0	22984	1.2	-82	-159	58	53	23095
Maine	833	-242	-352	2	0	5357	0.9	33	-1221	28	15	5400
Maryland	3773	-600	-552	14	2	32996	1.3	-390	-3154	340	198	33534
Massachusetts	6662	150	-367	12	6	57772	1.7	-1528	-4040	349	241	58362
Michigan	9632	-950	-1183	23	23	47254	1.1	-749	-5761	174	172	47600
Minnesota	8109	1647	577	12	3	38093	1.4	2406	-5616	89	107	38289
Mississippi	1637	-196	-190	5	1	10551	1.0	-442	-1486	88	49	10688
Missouri	3435	-1608	-779	29	1	22259	0.8	416	-6018	563	54	22876
Montana	1874	-9	-430	46	3	7813	1.8	319	-1386	256	33	8102
Nebraska	1483	457	142	1	1	4357	0.5	205	-994	17	16	4390
Nevada	3117	208	-224	13	3	21414	1.7	-547	-3233	124	96	21634
New Hampshire	606	-26	-189	1	2	3927	0.6	-1	-621	12	7	3946
New Jersey	9813	-1210	358	19	9	85431	2.2	-6882	-5807	230	368	86029
New Mexico	948	-343	-188	9	1	11428	1.5	-313	-984	240	62	11730
New York	15335	-2189	-1353	24	25	136259	1.5	-1494	-11631	623	583	137465
North Carolina	2452	-1762	-357	5	15	23217	0.6	-619	-3435	118	252	23587
North Dakota	1908	610	688	0	2	3503	0.8	509	-195	16	7	3526
Ohio	10771	1137	-985	14	26	52359	1.0	942	-3499	214	291	52864
Oklahoma	1530	-1471	34	9	7	19952	1.3	666	-1235	79	146	20177
Oregon	3980	-1823	-13	47	9	26986	1.5	-783	-3662	513	154	27653
Pennsylvania	18607	295	-1973	66	31	103190	1.8	-6635	-18942	695	412	104297
Puerto Rico	925	-705	-328	2	4	21515	2.4	-1725	-5559	60	130	21705
Rhode Island	1180	223	263	7	3	7317	1.6	59	-331	13	24	7354
South Carolina	1716	-1483	-279	8	7	14472	0.7	-470	-1936	61	127	14660
South Dakota	489	27	68	4	1	1550	0.4	-1	-51	29	4	1583
Tennessee	2460	-252	-618	6	4	16542	0.6	-313	-5740	222	53	16817
Texas	10877	-7688	-44	58	73	147856	1.3	-11483	-9555	699	2133	150688
Utah	1434	-242	-5	39	5	9141	0.7	303	-1474	225	32	9398
Vermont	1420	728	163	3	1	3534	1.2	-68	109	10	3	3547
Virgin Islands	14	-14	-9	0	1	420	1.1	-526	-304	0	10	430
Virginia	3077	-663	68	8	7	22668	0.6	-652	-2373	298	479	23445
Washington	8087	-866	-872	57	51	47918	1.6	683	-3992	433	716	49067
West Virginia	1225	-416	25	1	2	11364	1.7	-234	-2898	38	50	11452
Wisconsin	11663	4779	-2378	10	3	30424	1.1	703	-8331	110	61	30595
Wyoming	634	-37	-54	6	1	4758	1.7	-376	-530	89	12	4859
Totals	249774	-38020	-12854	909	584	1746231	1.3	-111003	-144966	11540	12036	1769807

Figures Appearing In columns showing Over-The-Week Changes reflect all revisions in data for prior week submitted by State agencies.

1. The Unemployment Compensation program for Federal Employees (UCFE) and the Unemployment Compensation for Ex-servicemembers (UCX) exclude claims filed jointly under other programs to avoid duplication.
2. Rate is not seasonally adjusted. The source of US total covered employment is BLS.

UNADJUSTED INITIAL CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 26, 2016

STATES WITH AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
WI	+4,779	No comment.
MN	+1,647	No comment.
OH	+1,137	Layoffs in the manufacturing industry.

STATES WITH A DECREASE OF MORE THAN 1,000

State	Change	State Supplied Comment
CA	-11,339	Fewer layoffs in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry.
TX	-7,688	Fewer layoffs in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and manufacturing industries.
GA	-2,444	Fewer layoffs in the health care and social assistance, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, manufacturing, and construction industries.
FL	-2,329	Fewer layoffs in the wholesale trade, retail trade, construction, and manufacturing industries.
NY	-2,189	Fewer layoffs in the health care and social assistance, transportation and warehousing, and accommodation and food service industries.
OR	-1,823	No comment.
NC	-1,762	Fewer layoffs in the arts, entertainment, and recreation, professional, scientific and technical service, and administrative, support, waste management and remediation service industries.
AZ	-1,634	No comment.
MO	-1,608	Fewer layoffs in the health care and social assistance, administrative, support, waste management and remediation service, and retail trade industries.
SC	-1,483	No comment.
OK	-1,471	No comment.
NJ	-1,210	Fewer layoffs in the health care and social assistance, and professional, scientific and technical service industries.
LA	-1,039	No comment.
CT	-1,036	No comment.

TECHNICAL NOTES

This news release presents the weekly unemployment insurance (UI) claims reported by each state's unemployment insurance program offices. These claims may be used for monitoring workload volume, assessing state program operations and for assessing labor market conditions. States initially report claims directly taken by the state liable for the benefit payments, regardless of where the claimant who filed the claim resided. These are the basis for the advance initial claims and continued claims reported each week. These data come from ETA 538, Advance Weekly Initial and Continued Claims Report. The following week initial claims and continued claims are revised based on a second reporting by states that reflect the claimants by state of residence. These data come from the ETA 539, Weekly Claims and Extended Benefits Trigger Data Report.

A. Initial Claims

An initial claim is a claim filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer. The claimant requests a determination of basic eligibility for the UI program. When an initial claim is filed with a state, certain programmatic activities take place and these result in activity counts including the count of initial claims. The count of U.S. initial claims for unemployment insurance is a leading economic indicator because it is an indication of emerging labor market conditions in the country. However, these are weekly administrative data which are difficult to seasonally adjust, making the series subject to some volatility.

B. Continued Weeks Claimed

A person who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment then files a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment. Continued claims are also referred to as insured unemployment. The count of U.S. continued weeks claimed is also a good indicator of labor market conditions. Continued claims reflect the current number of insured unemployed workers filing for UI benefits in the nation. While continued claims are not a leading indicator (they roughly coincide with economic cycles at their peaks and lag at cycle troughs), they provide confirming evidence of the direction of the U.S. economy.

C. Seasonal Adjustments and Annual Revisions

Over the course of a year, the weekly changes in the levels of initial claims and continued claims undergo regularly occurring fluctuations. These fluctuations may result from seasonal changes in weather, major holidays, the opening and closing of schools, or other similar events. Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on the level of a series can be tempered by adjusting for regular seasonal variation. These adjustments make trend and cycle developments easier to spot. At the beginning of each calendar year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics provides the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) with a set of seasonal factors to apply to the unadjusted data during that year. Concurrent with the implementation and release of the new seasonal factors, ETA incorporates revisions to the UI claims historical series caused by updates to the unadjusted data.

[Weekly Claims Archives](#)

[Weekly Claims Data](#)

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